



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D. C. 20535

Dr. Ivan Greenberg

FEB 09 2001

Subject of Request : **Frederick Jackson Turner**

FOIPA NO. **926883**

Dear Requester:

Enclosed are copies of documents from FBI records. Excisions have been made to protect information exempt from disclosure pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, Section 552 (Freedom of Information Act) and/or Section 552a (Privacy Act). In addition, where excisions were made, the appropriate exempting subsections have been cited opposite the deletions. Where pages have been withheld in their entirety, a deleted page information sheet has been substituted showing the reasons or basis for the deletion. The subsections cited for withholding information from the enclosed documents are marked below:

**Section 552**

**Section 552a**

☒ (b)(1)

☐ (b)(7)(A)

☐ (d)(5)

☒ (b)(2)

☐ (b)(7)(B)

☐ (j)(2)

☐ (b)(3)

☒ (b)(7)(C)

☐ (k)(1)

☐ (b)(4)

☒ (b)(7)(D)

☐ (k)(2)

☐ (b)(5)

☐ (b)(7)(E)

☐ (k)(3)

☐ (b)(6)

☐ (b)(7)(F)

☐ (k)(4)

☐ (b)(8)

☐ (k)(5)

☐ (b)(9)

☐ (k)(6)

☐ (k)(7)

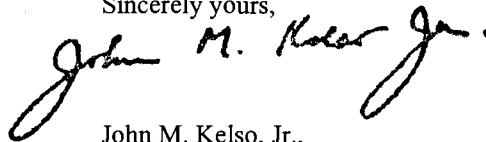
(See Form OPCA-16a, enclosed, for an explanation of these exemptions.)

Pursuant to your request, **6** pre-processed pages are being released.

The documents responsive to your request were previously processed for another requester. In order to provide the information you requested as soon as possible, we have released the FBI information as it was originally processed. We have not contacted other government agencies concerning their information in FBI files.

- ☒ If you desire, you may appeal any denials contained herein. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Co-Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, Flag Building, Suite 570, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from receipt of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.
- ☐ See additional information which follows:

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John M. Kelso, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

John M. Kelso, Jr.,  
Section Chief  
Freedom of Information-  
Privacy Acts Section  
Office of Public and  
Congressional Affairs

Enclosures (2 )

## EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

### SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b) (1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive order;
- (b) (2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b) (3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on the issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b) (4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b) (5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b) (6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b) (7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b) (8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b) (9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d) (5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j) (2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k) (1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k) (2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k) (3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k) (4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k) (5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k) (6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k) (7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION-**

**PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT:  FREDERICK JACKSON TURNER**  
**REQUESTER:  DR. IVAN GREENBERG**

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	DATE 5/17/61	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 11/24/60-4/26/61
TITLE OF CASE <del>SECRET</del> THE NEW YORK SCHOOL FOR MARXIST STUDIES, FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE PEOPLE'S SCHOOL FOR MARXIST STUDIES		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	TYPED BY Jog
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY-C INTERNAL SECURITY ACT-1950	

## SYNOPSIS:

### REFERENCE

Report of SA [REDACTED] 11/23/60,  
at New York.

- P\* -

### ADMINISTRATIVE

The sources used for the characterization of Faculty of Social Science were:

[REDACTED] (S)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT  
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE

- 5 - Bureau (100-433932) (RM)  
1 - G-2, First Army, NYC (RM)  
1 - DIO, Third Naval District NYC (RM)  
1 - 2nd OSI District, USAF, NYC (RM)  
2 - New York (100-142782)

100-433932-8

REC-5

EX-113

CLASSIFIED BY: 60267/nls/sc/mar  
REASON: 1.5 (C)  
DECLASSIFY ON: X 1

66 JUN 2 1961

AGENCY: G-2, DNI, OSI, RAO-0-6  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 5/26/61  
HOW FORW. [REDACTED]  
BY: [REDACTED]

58 AUG 23 1961

~~SECRET~~

INT. SEC.

~~SECRET~~

NY 100-142782

[REDACTED] on November 29, 1960, furnished information similar to the above concerning the November 21, 1960, class and added that APTHEKER spoke of the unleashing of limited imperialism during the Civil War period. He said that the United States Government loaned millions of dollars to the railroads at low interest rates and the railroads secured 800 million acres of land by which they were able to control towns and cities that sprung up on either side of the tracks. APTHEKER said that the taxpayers bore the brunt of building the railroads through taxes and controlled inflation and deflation.

[REDACTED] on November 22, 1960, furnished information similar to that of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] concerning the November 21, 1960, class.

[REDACTED] advised on December 1, 1960, that in the November 28, 1960, class HERBERT APTHEKER stated that the masses in the South did not support the confederacy. The Civil War was a counterrevolutionary plot of the monied land owners of the South to prevent a bourgeois, democratic republic from coming into being in the South.

[REDACTED] on December 13, 1960, and [REDACTED] on December 2, 1960, furnished information similar to the above concerning the November 28, 1960, class.

[REDACTED] on January 8, 1961, made available an outline of the NYSMS for the class. "American Social Thought: an Historical Analysis". The outline sets forth the following:

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NY 100-142782

"I. Frederick Jackson Turner: American 'Exceptionalism' in History-Writing

"II. Charles A. Beard: Economic Determinism & Idealism

Reading: Turner: The Frontier in American History  
Beard: The Rise of American Civilization, vol. I  
Lee Benson: Turner & Beard (1960)  
H. Aptheker: 'The Constitution' in Looking Forward  
(1954)  
: The American Revolution (1960)

"III. Thorstein Veblen: Radical Critic of Capitalist Economics

Reading: Veblen: The Theory of Business Enterprise  
: The Theory of the Leisure Class  
J. Dorfman: VEBLEN & HIS AMERICA

"IV. David Riesman: Soporifics for the Alienated

Reading: Riesman: The Lonely Crowd  
: Individualism Reconsidered  
H. Aptheker: Chapter on Riesman in HISTORY  
& REALITY (1955)

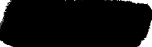
"V. Walter Lippmann: Big Business' Jeremiah


Reading: Lippmann: The Public Philosophy  
H. Aptheker: Chapter on Lippmann in HISTORY  
& REALITY


"VI. C. Wright Mills: Non-Communist Radical


Reading: Mills: The Power Elite  
: The Sociological Imagination  
: Causes of World War III  
: Listen Yankee!  
H. Aptheker: THE WORLD OF C. WRIGHT MILLS (1960)

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 advised on January 18, 1961, that Dr. HERBERT APTHEKER was the instructor for the above course. In the January 16, 1961, class APTHEKER spoke of the contribution of FREDERICK JACKSON TURNER who sought to turn American historical inquiry away from the New England federalist monopoly and who broke with provincialism and rebelled against ecclesiasticism.

 advised on January 27, 1961, that in the January 23, 1961, class Dr. APTHEKER spoke of CHARLES A. BEARD's views on the American Revolution. These views were that the American Revolution occurred because of the growth of American bourgeoisie and the onerous British restrictions; that the American Constitution was an ultra conservative document representing the efforts of the property class to protect its rights and that the civil war occurred because of the growth of the Northern industrial bourgeoisie which found the domination of Congress by the agrarian slavocracy onerous. APTHEKER said that BEARD ignores the fundamental basis of mass participation in history. BEARD ignores the value of the Negroes in history and offers no value judgments. APTHEKER stated that history is not made but happens.

 advised on January 31, 1961, that in the January 30, 1961, class APTHEKER spoke of CHARLES A. BEARD's views of the civil war as being the second American revolution and the triumph of the industrial class of the North.

 advised on February 9, 1961, that in the February 6, 1961, class APTHEKER discussed DAVID RIESMAN describing him as a phenomenon of the upsurge of conservatism and a supporter of the late Senator MC CARTHY.

~~SECRET~~



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

File No. 121-12458

REPORT MADE AT <b>WASHINGTON, D. C.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>1/27/50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>1/3, 6, 10, 20, 23/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <b>b7C</b> DG
TITLE [REDACTED] <b>b7C</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

[REDACTED]'s Personnel File at FEA reviewed. Employed by FEA or BEN from [REDACTED] 1942, to [REDACTED] 1945, in Washington, D. C., [REDACTED] Background information set out.

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau file #62-84347.  
Bureau letter dated December 22, 1949.

**DETAILS:**

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

[REDACTED]'s Personnel File while employed at the Foreign Economic Administration, presently in the custody of the State Department, Washington, D. C., [REDACTED] that by letter dated April 24, 1942, [REDACTED] Board of Economic Warfare, [REDACTED] in which [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] "Can you come to Washington as early as possible next week for a position with the [REDACTED] of the Board of Economic Warfare. It will pay \$2,600. I have arranged for you to discuss the matter with [REDACTED] in charge, [REDACTED], and to apply if you are interested. Advise me of your intention." Effective [REDACTED] 1942, [REDACTED] was appointed [REDACTED] in the Board of Economic Warfare. On [REDACTED] he was promoted to [REDACTED] Board of Economic Warfare, [REDACTED] assigned to [REDACTED]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Gregg Holloman</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT [REDACTED] more (Info.) [REDACTED] Field COPIES DESTROYED NOV 19 1964 96	62-84347-11
	JAN 30 1950
COPY IN FILE	RECORDED - 50 INDEXED - 50 EX-5

56 FEB 13 1950

WFO 121-12458

b7c

On a personnel form dated April 28, 1942, [REDACTED] listed the following publications:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

} o/s  
b7c

b7c

} o/s  
b7c

- CLOSING -